Role of the SAARC in defusing the situation in Sri Lanka

206. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what role Government have played being a member of SAARC since the outbreak of war and genocide in North-Eastern province of Sri Lanka;

(b) whether the SAARC can play any positive role in defusing the alarming situation;

(c) whether Government art aware of the proposal of the Sri Lankan President to involve international mediation to save the crisis; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Government have made several efforts for peace and normalcy in Sri Lanka. These efforts have nothing to do with SAARC.

(b) SAARC seeks to promote regional economic cooperation in South Asia and has no role to play in matters which are essentially political, or concern the internal affairs of member states or in bilateral issues between member states.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government believe that the resolution of the ethnic conflict is a matter to be ultimately solved by the Sri Lanka Government and the Tamils of Sri Lanka.

Supply medicine and other essential items to Sri Lanka

207. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to send medicines and other essential commodities through International Red Cross to Sri Lanka in view of the genocide that has begun in Sri Lanka's North-Eastern Province; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) There is no such proposal at this stage.

(b) Does not arise.

CAG report on DAVP

208. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the CAG has stated in its report for 1988-89 that an infructuous expenditure of Rs. 5.88 lakhs was incurred due to delay in body-building work of the Vans meant for Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per statement. (*See* below).

Statement

Reasons for delay in body-building of exhibition vans of DAVP

The C A G in its report for the year 1988-89 stated that an infructuous expenditure of Rs. 5.88 lakh had been incurred due to delay in the body building of 3 exhibition vans meant for Itanagar, Aizwal and Calcutta Units (Mobile Van Units) of DAVP. While the van units at Itanagar and Aizwal were Commissioned under the 6th Plan Scheme, the van meant for Calcutta was for replacement of the old van which had been declared unserviceable and subsequently auctioned.

2. There had been delay in fabrication of these vans on account of:—

(a) Procurement of Van's Chassis

(b) Preparation of technical specifications/design and model and finalisation of the same,

(c) Inviting of tenders,

(d) Finalisation of lowest tenderer,

(e) Assigning the job to the lowest tenderer

(f) Periodical inspection and scrutiny of the fabrication job as per specifications,

(g) Withdrawing of 3rd chassis from the contractor when it was noticed that the party was delaying the fabrication job,

(h) Awarding the job to another contractor by floating fresh tenders and observing all the formalities.

3. The C A G. in its report had observed that the expenditure incurred towards pay and allowances of the staff members was infructours since the units could not perform exhibition activities.

4. The Staff members of the Calcutta Van soon after the van became inoperative, were deployed for conducting general exhibition programmes (as a General Unit). Throughout the period, the unit remained occupied while action at Headquarters went on for providing the new van to the units.

5. The staff members of other remaining two units were employed before receiving the vans to do preliminary work. They had to be paid their salary as they were in position.

Jharkhand issue

209. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha has given an ultimatum to the Centre to meet the demand of statehood within a few weeks; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) No such ultimatum has been received by the Central Government from the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha.

(b) Does not arise.

Closing of Indian Embassy in Fiji

210. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present Fiji Government have moved to close down the Indian Embassy in SUVA; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Our Embassy was closed on May 24, 1990.

(b) Government of India has reiterated its resolve to continue its support for the democratic movement in Fiji and to take all opportunities to voice it's opposition to racial discrimination whatever it's form and wherever it is practised. A statement expressing Government's reaction was laid on the floor of the House on May 24, 1990.

Law and order situation in J & K

211. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the law and order situation in Jammu and Kashmir has been worsening day by day; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to bring back normalcy and to restore peace in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) The Law and order situation in Jammu & Kashmir is difficult. The Government